

TRUE (F.W.)

Diagnoses of New North American
mammals



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DIAGNOSES OF NEW NORTH AMERICAN MAMMALS.

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In connection with certain studies of North American mammals which I have recently undertaken, I find it desirable to separate out a few forms under new names. A mole from Ft. Klamath, Oregon, presents certain cranial and dental differences from described species which seem to me worthy of recognition, and I regard it necessary to place Brewer's mole in a new genus. I desire in addition to publish diagnoses of an undescribed race of Abert's squirrel, a new lemming, and a lemming-like mouse, representing a new genus.

SCIURUS ABERTI CONCOLOR, new subspecies.

Similar to *S. aberti*, but with no rufous area on the back, all the upper surfaces being gray throughout. Tail alike on both sides; the hair annulated with gray and white proximally, with a rather broad subterminal black ring and pure white tips. Ears gray within; externally gray and rufous, as in the typical form of *S. aberti*; furnished with long terminal pencils, which are black, more or less mixed with gray and rufous. Under-surfaces of body and limbs pure white; the hairs, however, gray in the basal third, except on the under side of the front legs, where they are white to the base. Backs of feet gray; toes white.

Dimensions (from the dry skin; type).—Head and body, 280 mm.; tail vertebræ, 215 mm.; ear from the occiput (without pencil), 22 mm.; hind foot (without claw), 61 mm.

Type.—No. 21423, U. S. N. M., female, Loveland, Larimer Co., Colorado. Collected by Wm. S. Smith.

A male from the same locality is melanistic. All the melanistic specimens of Abert's squirrel in the study-collection of the National Museum are from Colorado.

The variety above described shows a remarkable resemblance to *Sciurus fassor*, but the latter is without ear-tufts.

SCAPANUS DILATUS, new species.

Exterior unknown.

Dental formula :—I. $\frac{3}{3}$, C. $\frac{1}{1}$, PM. $\frac{3}{4}$, M. $\frac{3}{3}$. Penultimate premolar with a posterior cusp.

Size of skull moderate. Maxillary above the first molar broad (equal in breadth to the interparietal bone), with a strong ridge separated from the root of the zygoma by an emargination. Antero-external angles of the interparietal not rounded off. Angular process of the mandible narrow, strongly uncinate.

Dimensions of skull (type).—Greatest length, 34 mm.; basilar length (Hensel), 28.5 mm.; greatest breadth across maxillæ, 10.5; greatest zygomatic breadth, 14.0 mm.; length of tooth-row, 15.0 mm.; length of parietals, 11.1 mm.; breadth of interparietal, 10.5 mm.

Type.—No. 1286, Merriam Collection, Ft. Klamath, Oregon. (Skeleton). Collected by Capt. C. E. Bendire.

PARASCALOPS, new genus.

Premolars, $\frac{4}{4}$. Molars with a trilobed internal basal projection, extending across the bases of both external cusps. Tympanic bullæ incomplete and annular. Pelvis with no osseous bridges opposite or posterior to the acetabulum, connecting the sacral vertebræ with the pelvis. Extremity of the spinous processes of the sacral vertebræ connected by a continuous band of bone, but the intervals between the spines themselves not filled in with bone.

Tail hairy. General color black.

Type: *Scalops breweri*, Bachman.

MYODES NIGRIPES, new species.

Upper surfaces nearly uniform cinnamon-gray, without bands or spots. Sides, including the lower part of the cheeks and neck, clear tawny brown. Under-surfaces paler tawny, which tint is gradually merged into the stronger color of the sides. Nose black. Fore feet black above, tawny below. Hind feet black both above and below. Tail bicolored, black above, pale tawny below.

Dimensions (from dry skin; type).—Head and body 130 mm.; tail vertebræ, 13 mm.; hind foot (without claw), 17.5 mm.

Type.—No. 59152, U. S. N. M., male, St. George's Island, Alaska. Collected by Chas. H. Townsend, Aug. 18, 189(?)

MICTOMYS, new genus.

General appearance that of *Synaptomys*. Ears moderate. Tail short, hairy. Thumb with a strap-shaped nail, as in *Myodes*. Mammæ, 4 pairs.

Skull similar to that of *Synaptomys*. Incisors obliquely beveled and broadly grooved on the bevel. Molars rootless. Upper molars as in *Synaptomys*. Lower molars resembling those of *Phenacomys* and *Synaptomys*, but with the external border of enamel merely crenulate, with no external re-entrant angles, or triangles of dentine, except in the middle of the last tooth, where there is a

short indentation.

Type, *M. innuitus*, as below.

MICTOMYS INNUITUS, new species.

Size moderate. Ears well developed, rounded, about as long as the fur immediately in front of their base. Five tubercles on the hind feet; soles hairy. Claws well developed, compressed. Upper surfaces grayish brown, as in *Synaptomys*. Under surfaces gray. Face pale brown. Lips, end of nose, and chin, white. Feet pale brown. Tail bicolored, pale brown above, white below. Ears clothed with rather long and sparse brown hairs.

Dimensions (from alcoholic specimen; type).—Head and body, 88.0 mm.; tail vertebrae, 15. mm.; terminal pencil, 5. mm.; ear, from base of orifice, 9.5 mm.; hind foot (without claw), 15 mm.

Type.—No. 14838, U. S. N. M., nursing female, Fort Chimo, Ungava, Labrador. Collected by L. M. Turner; Spring, 1884.

